

John Rylands Research Institute Pilot Grants

Application deadline: 5pm, Monday 17th April 2023

Applications should be e-mailed to: research.jrril@manchester.ac.uk

Pilot grants are available to academic staff at The University of Manchester who wish to conduct initial and exploratory research into the Special Collections at The University of Manchester Library (which includes the collections of the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah RACE (Race Archives and Community Engagement) Centre) during the 2023/24 academic year in preparation for a larger, externally funded grant bid that would be held at The University of Manchester.

Grants of up to £5,000 are available to cover activities directly linked to the type of research and grant preparation described above including teaching buyouts and hiring a research assistant.

Applicants must discuss their application with their line manager and requests for teaching buyout must be agreed with the respective Head of Department in advance of making an application.

Please liaise with your school research office to calculate costings.

Guidance on the eligibility of expenses and research assistance costs is available from the Institute office: research.jrril@manchester.ac.uk.

Successful applicants will receive support from the Institute/School Grant Writer to apply for the follow-on funding based on the research supported by the pilot grant, which must be submitted to a grant awarding body by an agreed date.

Application Process

The completed application form should include:

- The names and affiliation of the application team with contact details for the lead applicant.
- A short summary of the relevant experience of each person involved. This can include a named research assistant if applicable (maximum 500 words).
- Details of the intended project to include: title, start and end dates, objectives, methodology, outputs and pilot project costs.
- An outline of the sources from the UML Special Collections to be consulted.
- Future plans for the research project which must include grant capture.
- Brief up to date curriculum vitae and list of relevant publications (max. 2 pages each).
- Applications and queries should be e-mailed to: research.jrril@manchester.ac.uk

What will the applicant receive?

- A maximum of £5,000 will be awarded per application.
- Support from expert curators, conservators and imaging specialists.
- Support from the Institute grant writer.

What will the Institute expect from the applicant?

- A short blog post at the end of the project
- Contribution to a work in progress seminar series (dates tbc)
- All awarded Pilot Grant funding must be spent before **31 July 2024** and claim forms must also be submitted to the grant holder's research or administrative office by this date.
- All grant holders must submit an application for follow-on funding based on the research supported by the pilot grant to an external grant awarding body by an agreed date.

The significance and scope of The University of Manchester Special Collections is extensive. We advise applicants to consult the [Guide to Special Collections](#) and the searchable [A-Z](#) on The University of Manchester Library website for more information on our holdings.

We strongly recommend that applicants get in touch with relevant curators early on in the application planning process, especially if they are unfamiliar with the collections. Information about curators and their subject specialisms can be found on the [John Rylands Research Institute and Library website](#), and Institute staff are also happy to be approached for advice.

Pre-application advice is also available from:

Professor Hannah Barker, Director of the John Rylands Research Institute:
hannah.barker@manchester.ac.uk or Dr Guyda Armstrong, Scientific and Digital Lead at the John Rylands Research Institute: guyda.armstrong@manchester.ac.uk